

**REMARKS**

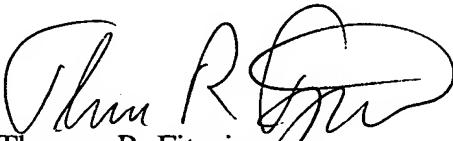
Applicants respectfully request this amendment be considered with the examination of this application.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification by the current preliminary amendment. The attached Appendix is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this preliminary amendment, he is invited to contact the applicants' attorney by phone.

Respectfully submitted,

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****In the Specification:**

Beginning on page 1, line 5 the following new paragraph has been added as follows:

**--STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENT INTEREST**

This invention was made with government assistance from the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, Air Force Material Command, U.S.A.F., under grant number F49620-97-0050; and from the National Science Foundation under grant number DMI-9908252; and from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory under the Federal Laboratory Program, Cooperative Agreement number DAAL01-96-2-0003. The government has certain rights in this invention.--